

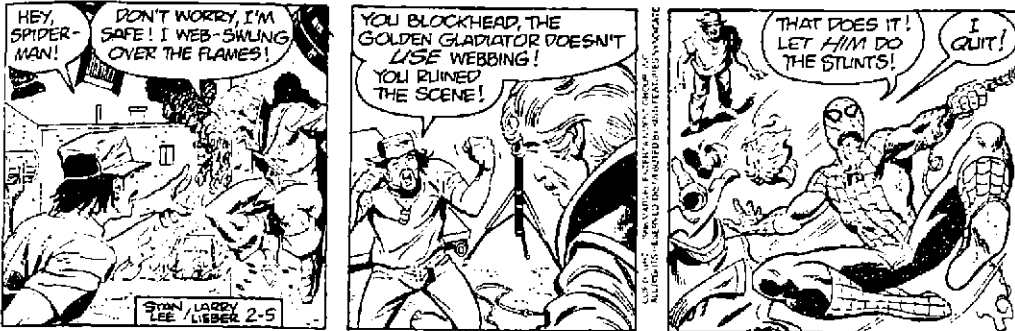
BLONDIE



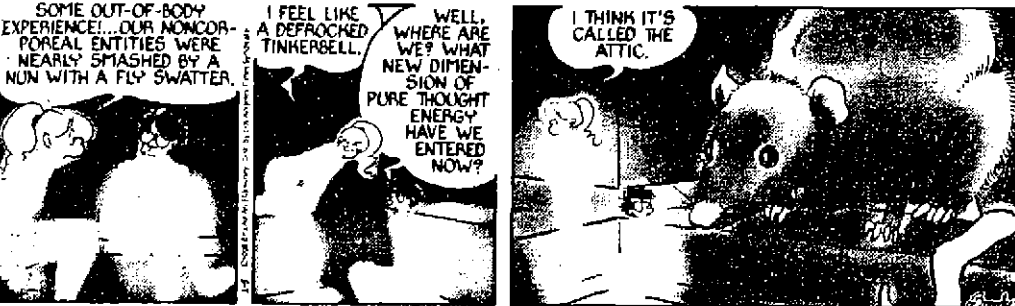
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



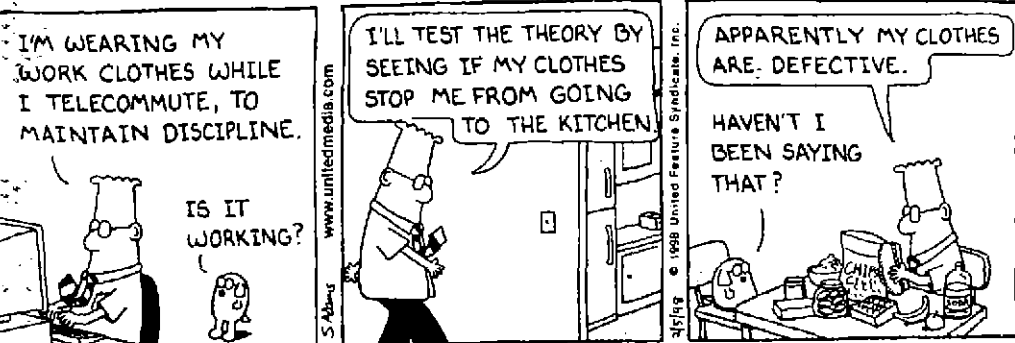
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



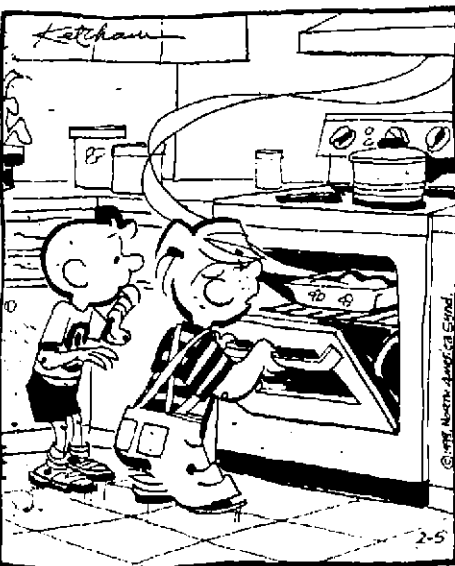
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



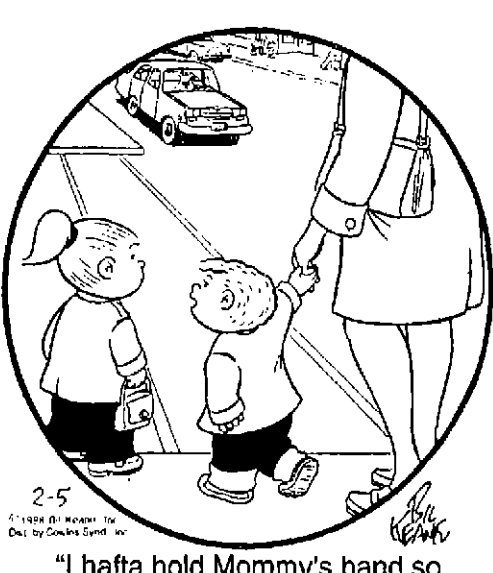
DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE

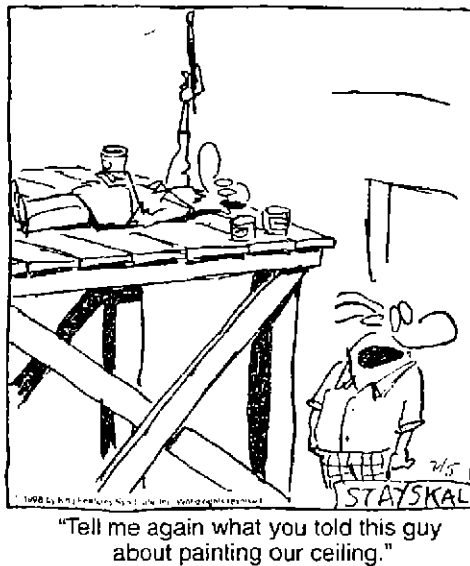


HOROSCOPE

For Friday, Feb. 6, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You exchange unpleasant words with a loved one early in the day. However, don't let that color your entire outlook.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You've rolled up your sleeves and pitched in, and the project is coming along well.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You are puzzled by your mate's behavior. If you're honest with yourself, you realize how you've contributed to his or her insecurity.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Although your mind is on upcoming weekend events, pay attention to a work assignment.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You demonstrate your value to big-wigs. You can do so in such a way that it could not be construed as boastful or abrasive.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Taking a stand with those in authority does not put you in jeopardy. Instead, you impress the bigwigs with your beliefs.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Unfortunately, some energy you expend at work early in the day is wasted. Later in the day, you are likely to start over.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A loved one surprises you with some out-of-character criticism. Some time alone leads you to the conclusion that you deserve those sharp words.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) While you're exchanging social amenities with an acquaintance, avoid a tendency toward name-dropping.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You feel a bit out of place at a social outing.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Travel is in the stars for singles. Couples find solace in time spent together at home.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Once again, you're letting your temper get in the way. Tend to tasks at hand.

RALPH



WORD SLEUTH

Winter olympic sites

B R P Y R A G L A C N L J H F
N D B G E R M A N Y L Y S X V
A T R P O L O V E J A R A S M
G R E N O B L E K I K G P Z E
A L I L L E H A M M E R P T D
N B T Z S X W U V T P R O I O
O O A N O L J I G W L F R R D
E L L I V T R E B L A H O O C
A Y Y X I N O M A H C U A M X
W V K C U R B S N N I T O T S
R P O N L K J I G F D E C S U

Wednesday's unlisted clue: GRAVITY
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Thursday's unlisted clue hint: 1988 SITE IN ALBERTA
Albertville Innsbruck Nagano Squaw Valley
Chamonix Italy Oslo St. Moritz
Germany Lake Placid Sapporo Utah
Grenoble Lillehammer Sarajevo

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

"Why do they find great plays against me?" whined South. "I thought intentional sluff-and-ruff plays were only in the expert domain." "You did it to yourself," replied North. "Your revealing play left him no other option." East won his spade ace and led another spade to South's king. It was South's last good play. South ruffed his spade jack in dummy and led a diamond to his queen. West won and returned a diamond, but South overtook dummy's 10 with his jack to lead a trump. What options did West have after he won his ace? With no future in either minor suit, West led a fourth round of spades. The ruff-and-sluff play could give South nothing he didn't already have; instead, it took away a game South should have made. It promoted East's trump queen to the setting trick. South's mistake was to ruff his losing spade at trick three. To compound the error, South's subsequent plays told West his side could win only one minor-suit trick (the diamond ace). This left West with only the option of another trump trick, and the ruff-and-sluff play did the job. To make his game, South should lead a trump at trick three. West is the big favorite to hold the ace, and unless trumps are 3-0, South cannot misread the trump position. After West wins his trump ace, South loses only a trump, a spade and a diamond and claims his vulnerable game.

NORTH 02-05-A
♠ 3 2
♥ K 6 3
♦ K 10 7
♣ A K 10 4 2

WEST
♠ A Q 10 9 5 4
♥ A
♦ A 3 2
♣ Q 9 8 6

EAST
♠ A 7 6
♥ Q 9
♦ 8 6 5 4
♣ J 7 5 3

SOUTH
♠ K J 8
♥ J 10 8 7 5 4 2
♦ Q J 9
♣ ---

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: North

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♥ 2 ♠ 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Spade 10

BRIDGE RESULTS

Bridge America: Saturday evening, 1 NS, Don Dixon, Ellen Dixon; 2 NS, Ralph Carley, Sherli Macht; 1 EW, Don Miller, Sarah Miller; 2 EW, Janet Sinclair, Al Wistrup.
The Bridge Studio: Sunday afternoon, first, Ron Dewey, Cornelia Yoder; second, Frank Billera, Sherli Macht; Sunday evening, first, Mary Walsh, Mike Walsh; second, Paul Peters, Cornelia Yoder; Monday morning, first, Dennis Cleary, Larry Sunser; second, Sarah Fiorito, Sherli Macht; Monday evening, first, Dennis Cleary, Julie Sunser; second, Judie Bailey, Cameron Ross; Tuesday evening, first, Fran LeBoeuf, Cameron Ross; second, Bill Barrington, Al Bard; Wednesday evening, first, Sharon Ausman, Murray Hall; second, Rob Barrington, Cornelia Yoder; Thursday morning Teaching Game, 1 NS, Joe Myers, Sarah Myers; 2 NS, Beverly Spooner, Larry Spooner; 1 EW, Louis Bashaw, Bob Donahue; 2 EW, Doris Robinson, Forest Robinson; Thursday evening, first/second, Carl Hileman, Murray Hall; Howie Cring, Don Paulus; Friday morning, first, Hannah Dushay, Ann Marin; second, Al Getman, Jack Koerner; Friday evening, first, Cliff Donn, Josh Donn; second, Mike Walsh, Cornelia Yoder.
Concord Aces: Monday morning, 1 NS, Judy Ortiz, Mary Ryan; 2 NS, Judy Butcher, Gerta Freimark; 1 EW, Fran Dussault, Louise Staring; 2 EW, Mary Gorkin, Jane Hackbarth.
Stonehedge: Tuesday morning, first/second, Judy Butcher, Lori Desruisseaux; Esther Emm, Louise Staring.
Call 422-4114 by Friday evening to report your bridge club results.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Comedian-actor **Red Buttons** is 79. The Rev. **Andrew M. Greeley** is 70. Country singer **Claude King** is 65. Baseball Hall-of-Famer **Hank Aaron** is 64. Actor **David Selby** is 57. Football Hall-of-Famer **Roger Staubach** is 56. Actress **Barbara Hershey** is 50. Actress **Jennifer Jason Leigh** is 36. Rock musician **Duff McKagan** (Guns N' Roses) is 34. Singer **Bobby Brown** is 29. Country singer **Sara Evans** is 27.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On this date:
In 1783, Sweden recognized the independence of the United States.
In 1917, Congress passed, over President Wilson's veto, a law severely curtailing the immigration of Asians.
In 1917, Mexico's constitution was adopted.
In 1994, white separatist Byron De La Beckwith was convicted in Jackson, Miss., of the murder of civil rights leader Medgar Evers.

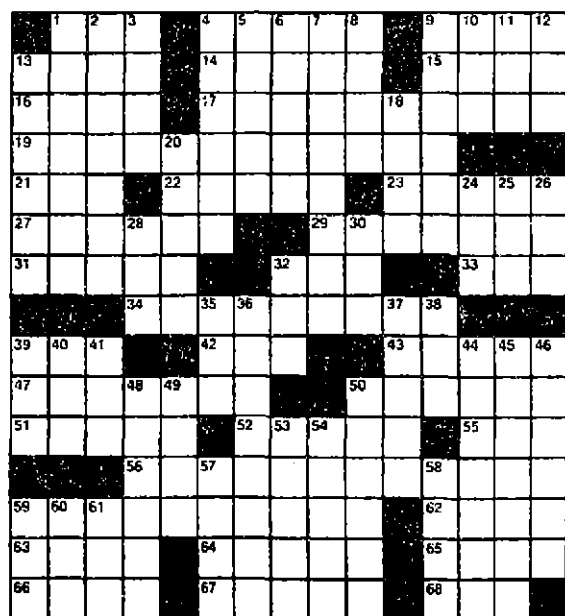
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1225

- ACROSS**
1 Ruth stat.
4 "Julius Caesar" role
9 Tray cheese
13 Bad end
14 Take out (borrow)
15 Ancient city, home of St. Nicholas
16 Longtime Israeli diplomat
17 "Loverboy" singer, 1984
18 "Peek-a-boo" girl" of 40's Hollywood
21 California's Fort
22 End of ---
23 Sum up
27 About-faces
28 Ahead
31 What debaters debate
32 South Africa's --- Paul Kruger
33 Scrapbook pastings
34 "The Producers" director
39 Mess up
42 "Spiders!"
43 "... in --- tree"
47 It may be pulled over someone's eyes
50 Life Saver flavor
51 Insured's contribution
52 Watchmaker's unit of thickness
55 Computer link, for short
56 Dixieland star
59 1990 Emmy-winning talk show host
62 Unpopular spots
63 Lounge
64 Beal
65 Disorder
66 Draft, maybe
67 Graf rival
68 Ballpark fig.
- DOWN**
1 Director Rossellini
2 Close for good
3 Mae West's "--- Angel"
4 Passenger ship section
5 Tea party attendee
6 Kind of battery
7 Crabmeat stew
8 Novelist Seton
9 Led the entertainment
10 Coloring
11 Parseghian of Notre Dame
12 Hipster's exclamation
13 Pious
18 Southern soup ingredient
20 Vice President John --- Garner
24 Tom Clancy subj.
25 That girl in "That Girl"
26 Vardon Trophy awardee: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

NAMES JACK ORCA
ASONE AMOI LOLL
CHRISTMASTREEUP
LENGTH DISEASES
MEET CNN
WREATHONTHEDOOR
HOS SARAH SENNA
ETTA TERRI RECT
LOESS AEONS ULE
PRESENTSWRAPPED
ELI NONO
PLUMMETS AGLARE
SITBACKANDRELAX
ARIL ETNA IRENE
TALE SSGT ASSTS



Puzzle by A. J. Santora

- 28 Edge
30 Comic Philips
32 TV planet
35 Bill Clinton, astrologically
36 City east of Seattle
37 Actress Black
38 Bath or Evian
39 And the like
40 Frat letter
41 Handle business (for)
44 Intertwines
45 Bucking
46 Dreyfus trial city
48 Onetime TV judge
49 Court hearing
50 Burdens
53 "I Didn't Slip, I Wasn't Pushed, ---" (1950 song)
54 Spiny shrub
57 Pointers
58 Gentle
59 Staysail
60 Thomas Hood's "Autumn," e.g.
61 Steinful

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.